

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

March 16, 2016 Meeting

Issue: This agenda item requests approval to extend additional funding to the current grantees of the Evidence-based Practices (EBP) Training Project. If approved, this would extend the project until March 1, 2017 and use approximately \$190,000 in unspent Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funds that may otherwise revert to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Background: The Board of State and Community Corrections is the Designated State Administrative agency for the following two federal juvenile justice funding sources: Title II Formula Block Grant Program and the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program (JABG). Federal funding for JABG was discontinued in 2013 and unspent funding is due to expire in March 1, 2017.

The SACJJDP aligned the Title II and JABG programs to support California's Title II Three-Year plan to promote effective juvenile justice policies and programming. The plan outlined three priority areas: Disproportionate Minority Contact/Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity, Evidence-Based Practices, and strategies to support efforts to develop and strengthen services, programs, and policies that promote positive outcomes for youth, their families and communities.

On April 22, 2014 the SACJJDP approved approximately \$250,000 in discretionary JABG funds to further develop the EBP priority area and recommended that the BSCC Board authorize an Executive Steering Committee (ESC) to oversee the development of a Request for Applications (RFA) to identify probation departments that are prepared to receive training to assist them in implementing or expanding the use of EBP within their local juvenile justice communities. On May 8, 2014 the BSCC Board approved the recommendation of the SACJJDP and authorized staff to assemble an ESC for this project.

On November 13, 2014 the Board approved and released the proposed RFA for the EBP Training Project, as recommended by the SACJJDP at its October 15, 2014 meeting.

The ESC for this project included subject matter experts and was co-chaired by SACJJDP Committee Chair Sandra Mc Brayer and BSCC Board Member Michelle Brown. Funding for the EBP Training Project is intended to help fund training for probation staff and their juvenile justice partners and/or community stakeholders to increase skills, competency and proficiency in implementing effective correctional practices known to reduce recidivism.

Such trainings may include but are not limited to:

- Assessment Tools;
- Case Planning and Management;
- Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions;
- Continuous Quality Improvement;
- Gender Specific Care;
- Juvenile Brain Development;
- Organizational Development;
- Program Evaluation, and
- Trauma Informed Care.

Probation departments were allowed to request up to a maximum of:

- \$5,000 for a small-sized county;
- \$10,000 for a medium-sized county; and
- \$20,000 for a large-sized county.

Joint or regional applications representing multiple jurisdictions were allowed to request up to the combined amount of the county sizes included in the application. County sizes were based on the California Department of Finance definition: large counties (700,000+), Medium counties (200,001-700,000) and small counties (<200,000).

In January 2015 the BSCC staff received nine applications in response to the RFA. The nine applications received represented four large, five medium, and thirteen small counties for a total of twenty-two counties. Sufficient funding was available to fund all applicants and projects began on May 1, 2015 and are due to end on June 30, 2016.

JABG funding has been awarded annually to the BSCC for a three-year period with an option to request a one-year extension. As indicated previously, funding for JABG was discontinued at the federal level in 2013. The remaining balance of approximately \$190,000 is the result of 2012 and 2013 unallocated project funding, reversions from local grants, and interest earned during these funding periods.

Without a further extension, the 2013 funding is due to expire on March 1, 2017. Not enough time remains to develop a competitive-bid process for a new solicitation before this expiration date. Offering a second round of funding to the existing EBP Training Program grantees is a viable option that would use some or all of the remaining balance, benefit the California local juvenile justice system, and avoid reversion of the funds to the federal level. Should this option be endorsed by the SACJJDP and Board, the current EBP Training Project grantees would be expected to apply for additional funding by meeting the requirements and expectations as identified in the original RFA issued in November 2014. Applicants would be eligible to apply for funds based on funding thresholds identified in the RFA up to the amount of their original award.

Assuming approval by the SACJJDP of the recommended use of JABG funds, the recommendations will be presented to the Board on June 9, 2016.

Recommendation/Action Needed: Staff is requesting the SACJJDP approve a second round of funding for the current grantees of the Evidence-based Training Project as identified in Attachment A.

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